

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 05896 222124Z
ACTION MMO-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
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R 222050Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6425

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 5896

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGSC ECRP, ES
SUBJECT: SUGGESTED CHANGES IN CERP SCHEDULE

REF: INSPECTION MEMORANDUM, SAN SALVADOR SAN SALVADOR, NO.
4.3, JUNE 1977

1. THE EMBASSY WISHES TO PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES
IN THE CERP CHANGES FOR EL SALVADOR. THE AIM OF THESE
PROPOSED CHANGES IS TO RATIONALIZE THE CERP SCHEDULE
AND REDUCE THE BURDEN ON THE ECONOMICCOMMERCIAL SECTION,
WHICH LOST ONE U.S. OFFICER POSITION. A SHORT JUSTIFI-
CATION FOLLOWS EACH PROPOSED CHANGE LISTED BELOW.

2. DELETE CERP 1211 (TRADE WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES)
EL SALVADOR'S COMMERCE WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IS
MINUSCULE. COLLECTION OF UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
HOWEVER, IS DIFFICULT, REQUIRING SPECIAL VISITS TO
GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO COMPILE DATA BY HAND FORM
VOLUMINOUS COMPUTER PRINTEROUTS. DEVELOPMENTS OF
PARTICULAR INTEREST COULD BE SUBMITTED AS SPORT
REPORTS.

3. REDUCE THE FREQUENCY OF CERP 0003 (PERIODIC
ECONOMIC REVIEW)
BIMONTHLY ECONOMIC REPORTING FROM EL SALVADOR
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DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE JUSTIFIED BY US ECONOMIC INTERESTS HERE.
PREPARATION OF A BIMONTHLY REPORT REQUIRES CONSIDERABLE RESEARCH
AND DRAFTING TIME. CHANGING CERP 0003 TO A QUARTERLY FREQ-
UENCY WOULD ALLOW MORE ORDERLY COLLECTION OF DATA AND WOULD COIN-
CIDE WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE EMBASSY'S QUARTERLY ECON-
OMIC REPORT, AN UNCLASSIFIED ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DISTRIBUTED TO
US BUSINESSMEN. (THE QUARTERLY IS ALSO SENT TO WASHINGTON

AGENCIES AND SERVES IN EFFECT AS A PRIMARY VEHICLE OF EMBASSY ECONOMIC REPORTING.) COMBINING THE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS DONE FOR THE QUARTERLY AND FOR CERP 0003 WOULD CONSIDERABLY REDUCE THE ECONOMIC SECTION'S WORKLOAD AND MAKE CERP 0003 A MORE MEANINGFUL REPORT. IF A CHANGE IN THE FREQUENCY OF CERP 0003 IS APPROVED, THE DUE DATE SHOULD BE SET AT THE END OF THE MONTH AFTER THE END OF THE QUARTER TO BE COVERED TO ALLOW TIME FOR COLLECTION OF DATA.

4. CHANGE DUE DATE OF CERP 0004 (ECONOMIC TRENDS REPORT)
A CHANGE OF THE DUE DATE OF CERP 0004 FROM JAN. 1 TO FEB. 1 WOULD ALLOW MORE TIME FOR THE COLLECTION OF THE NATIONAL ACCOUNTS DATA ON WHICH THE REPORT IS BASED. RECENT PRELIMINARY FIGURES ARE USUALLY NOT AVAILABLE BEFORE THIS DATE. FURTHER, EL SALVADOR'S CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH GOES OFFICIALS IN DECEMBER TO OBTAIN UNOFFICIAL ESTIMATES.

5. CLARIFY STATUS OF CERP 0065 (TRADE OUTLOOK ARTICLE)
UNOFFICIAL CONTACTS WITH WASHINGTON OFFICIALS INDICATE ONLY MARGINAL INTEREST IN THIS REPORT. PREPARATION OF THE REPORT REQUIRES CONSIDERABLE TIME IN RESEARCH AND DRAFTING BY THE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE. A REVIEW OF THE NECESSITY OF THIS REPORT BY WASHINGTON END-USERS IS REQUESTED.

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